

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common Spring Valley Farm

## 2. Location

street & number 18201 Darnestown Road \_\_\_ not for publicationcity, town Poolesville  vicinity of congressional district 11th

state Maryland county Montgomery

## 3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bulding(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

## 4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Paul B. Kern, Jr. et al

street &amp; number 107 W. Jefferson St. telephone no.:

city, town Rockville state and zip code MD 20850

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Montgomery County Courthouse liber 6731

street &amp; number folio 480

city, town Rockville state Maryland

## 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date  federal  state  county  local

pository for survey records

city, town state

# 7. Description

Survey No. M: 17-65

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Spring Valley Farm contains several large, well-built examples of early 20th century farm buildings. According to farm manager, C. Macklin Thrift, all the structures standing today were built after 1900. The oldest of these are the corncrib and large wood bank barn.

The corncrib is a typical double crib spanned by a gable roof which forms a covered driveway. The roof is covered with sheet metal; the exterior walls are painted vertical boards. Inside the driveway the walls are unpainted. The cribs rest on stone piers, raising them off the ground about one foot. A one-bay storage shed is attached to the east side of the building. A mock window has been painted in the gable.

The wood bank barn, built prior to 1909, is a large, sawn timber structure, mortise, tenon, and pegged, with a gable roof. Atop the ridge are three elaborate wood cupolas. These are square with sides consisting of louvers. They are topped by small hip roofs beneath which decorative wood gingerbread gives a dentiled effect to the eaves. Lightning arresters are mounted at the peak of each cupola, as well as on the ridge between the cupolas. The roof is covered with sheet metal. The sides of the barn are sheathed with vertical boards on which are painted many round headed mock windows. On the south elevation is a lean-to shed consisting of a metal-covered roof supported by five heavy square posts with simple brackets. The foundation and the retaining walls of the earth ramp are rubble masonry. A large concrete stave silo stands at the north end of the west elevation.

Northeast of this barn is a small, concrete block, gambrel roof barn with a dairy of similar construction. Built in 1939 to meet the needs of the family, these are simple buildings using rusticated concrete block for their walls. The barn has vertical board siding above; the dairy's gables are covered with weatherboards.

The major buildings on the farm are the two cattle barns built in 1939. The westernmost barn is a T-shaped structure with a gable roof. The walls are of rusticated concrete block and have 12-light casement sash that open outward. Large wood doors roll horizontally to reveal the broad central passageways through the center of the barn's wings. The metal-covered gable roof has a very low pitch. Sitting astride the crossing of the barn's wings is a wood penthouse, also in the shape of a cross, with a metal-covered roof upon which sits a small, square, hip roof cupola. The interior of the barn contains box stalls added at a later date. One notable feature of this barn is the double quonset hut addition to the north end of the barn. This corrugated metal, round-roofed hut, brought to the farm after World War II, was used for showing stock during cattle sales.

To the east is located a more typical cattle barn. Its walls are built of rusticated concrete block, and its gambrel roof is covered with sheet metal. Three sheet metal ventilators are mounted on the ridge of the roof. The south elevation has nine 12-light windows, a double door in the center of the elevation, and another door at the east end. The west (front) elevation has double rolling doors opening onto the central passageway, flanked by 12-light windows. Above, in the weatherboard-clad gable, are two more doors, one directly above the first floor opening, and a pair of diagonally sliding doors providing access to the hayloft. Two small windows flank this doorway. The ridge of the roof projects to provide a triangular shelter for hoisting equipment at the top of the gambrel. A large concrete stave silo with domed metal roof stands to the north of this barn, connected by a small concrete block wing. A small, flat-roofed, concrete block structure stands just north of the barn to the west of the silo. East of the silo a shed projects from the north wall of the barn. Above the shed's nearly flat roof, a gabled wood dormer projects from the barn roof.

In addition to these structures, the farm contains a windmill; a metal building with barrel-vaulted roof, c. 1970, a tenant house; and the main house, c. 1939.

# 8. Significance

Survey No. M: 17-65

<b>Period</b>	<b>Areas of Significance—Check and justify below</b>			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

**Specific dates** 1909, 1939      **Builder/Architect**

check: Applicable Criteria:  A  B  C  D  
and/or

Applicable Exception:  A  B  C  D  E  F  G

Level of Significance:  national  state  local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

These fine cattle barns are evidence of the stature of this once-famous beef cattle farm. In the middle of the 20th century Spring Valley Farm was home to 2200 head of Hereford cattle, one of the largest herds in the country. The 1930's structures -- both cattle barns, the main house, and the small dairy barn -- are excellent examples of farm buildings of this era. Contrasting with these are the older bank barn and corncrib, both of which are superb examples of their own era. The wood barn is signed, "Painted by T. E. Thompson, July 10, 1909," and the sill of the shed next to it has the date 1939 scratched in the concrete. The wood bank barn is an especially fine example of its era, the wood cupolas being an unusual survival for a 20th century barn. Thus, Spring Valley Farm is significant for its buildings, a very handsome early 20th century bank barn and a pair of large, concrete block cattle barns.







M:17-65

Spring Valley Farm

18201 Darnestown Road

Poolesville, MD

Andrea Rebeck 1987

Looking northeast



M:17-65

Spring Valley Farm

18201 Darnestown Road

Poolesville, MD

Andrea Rebeck

1987

West elevation



M:17-65

Spring Valley Farm  
18201 Darnestown Road  
Poolesville, MD

Andrea Rebeck                      1987  
South elevation



M: 17-65

Spring Valley Farm  
18201 Darnestown Road  
Poolesville, MD  
Andrea Rebeck  
South elevation

1987